



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Health Services

At its meeting held July 26, 2005, the Board took the following action:

30-B

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“Los Angeles County and the State of California continue to experience a nursing shortage, which has no signs of improving. In fact, the State estimates that it will have a shortage of almost 50,000 nurses by 2010.

“This shortage is particularly acute in the areas of critical care nursing. The lack of critical care nurses has a far-reaching impact on the availability of health care services in Los Angeles County. In fact, the shortage of these nurses is cited by private hospitals as a key factor that affects their ability to operate and support trauma services.

“In 1991, the Los Angeles County Michael D. Antonovich Registered Nurse Scholarship Grant Program was initiated to provide scholarships ranging up to \$2,500 in exchange for a maximum of three years service agreement with the Department of Health Services upon graduation and receipt of one’s Registered Nurse license. This program has been successful in recruiting staff nurses throughout our hospitals and clinics.

“Governor Schwarzenegger has unveiled two initiatives this year to address the nursing shortage. The first, announced in March 2005, released \$13 million in State funds to support nursing job training and education. In April 2005, the Governor announced the California Nurse Education Initiative that provides additional funds to support nursing education activities. These initiatives put into place a framework to increase the educational opportunities for individuals who want to become nurses.”

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Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried (Supervisor Yaroslavsky being absent), the Director of Health Services was directed to evaluate the current County nurse scholarship programs and report back to the Board within 30 days with a proposal that will provide full tuition reimbursement to individuals that commit four years to the Department of Health Services and for those nurses who successfully complete coursework in specialty nursing services, such as critical care, operating room or emergency care.

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